



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Jim Freid, et al.

Serial No.: 10/015,206

Filed: November 19, 2001

For: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR
STABILIZING THE HUMAN SPINE WITH
A BONE PLATE

Attorney Docket No.: 5259-03700USC1

Examiner: Pedro Philogene

Group Art Unit: 3732

Certificate of Mailing under 37 CFR §1.8(a):

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as First Class Mail addressed to:

MS RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date of Deposit: 5/3/04

Kimberly A. Iorio
Kimberly A. Iorio

5/3/04

Date

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

MS RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

RECEIVED

MAY 10 2004

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3700

The following information is submitted, pursuant to 37 CFR §§1.97-1.98 in accordance with Applicant's duty of disclosure under 37 CFR §1.56. This submission is not intended to constitute an admission that any patent, publication or other information cited herein is "prior art" as to the invention claimed. In accordance with 37 CFR §§1.97(g)-(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that other material information as defined by 37 CFR §1.56(a) exists.

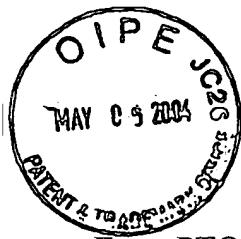
Applicants submit herewith Form PTO-1449 listing the references known to them. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner (1) initial each reference listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 indicating that the Examiner has considered and made those references of record in this application and (2) return a copy of the initialed Form PTO-1449 to Applicants. Copies of the references are also enclosed.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination under 37 CFR §1.114. Accordingly, no charge is required.

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Freid, et al.

Beth A. Vrioni
Beth A. Vrioni
Registration No. 39,869
Attorney for Applicants

ABBOTT LABORATORIES
Customer No.: 23492
Telephone: (847) 938-7576
Facsimile: (847) 938-2623



DATE: May 3, 2004

SHEET 1 of 1

Form PTO - 1449 (Modified)

FORM PTO-1449 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (Modified) PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY. DOCKET NO. 5259-03700USC1	SERIAL NO. 10/015,206
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)		APPLICANT(S) Jim Freid, et al.	
		FILING DATE November 19, 2001	GROUP 3732
(37 CFR 1.98 (b))			

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		PATENT NUMBER	ISSUE DATE	INVENTOR	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE
	A1	6193721	02/27/2001	Michelson			
	A2	6261291	07/17/2001	Talaber, et al.			
	A3	6017345	01/25/2000	Richelsoph			
	A4	5876402	03/02/1999	Errico, et al.			
	A5	5653763	08/05/1997	Errico, et al.			
	A6	5713904	02/03/1998	Errico, et al.			
	A7	5549608	08/27/1996	Errico, et al.			
	A8	5575792	11/19/1996	Errico, et al.			
	A9	2002/0058939		Wagner, et al.			

RECEIVED

MAY 10 2004

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3700

FOREIGN PATENT OR PUBLISHED FOREIGN PATENT APPLICATION

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	PUBLIC-ATION DATE	COUNTRY OR PATENT OFFICE	CLASS	SUB CLASS	TRANS-LATION YES NO

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Place of Publication)

EXAMINER **DATE CONSIDERED**

EXAMINER: Initial citation considered. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

(Form PTO 1449)